



UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
United States Patent and Trademark Office
Address: COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450
www.uspto.gov

APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/763,246	02/20/2001	Kenping Xie	A34032 PCTUS	5262

21003 7590 05/15/2006

BAKER & BOTTS
30 ROCKEFELLER PLAZA
44TH FLOOR
NEW YORK, NY 10112

EXAMINER

PHILLIPS, HASSAN A

ART UNIT PAPER NUMBER

2151

DATE MAILED: 05/15/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No.		Applicant(s)	
	09/763,246		XIE ET AL.	
	Examiner		Art Unit	
	Hassan Phillips		2151	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --
Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 17 February 2006.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1,6 and 8-17 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1,6 and 8-17 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on _____ is/are: a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ |
| 3) <input type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date: _____ | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: _____ |

DETAILED ACTION

1. This action is in response to communications filed February 17, 2006.

Continued Examination Under 37 CFR 1.114

2. A request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, including the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e), was filed in this application after final rejection. Since this application is eligible for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114, and the fee set forth in 37 CFR 1.17(e) has been timely paid, the finality of the previous Office action has been withdrawn pursuant to 37 CFR 1.114. Applicant's submission filed on February 17, 2006 has been entered.

Specification

3. The amendment filed February 17, 2006 is objected to under 35 U.S.C. 132(a) because it introduces new matter into the disclosure. 35 U.S.C. 132(a) states that no amendment shall introduce new matter into the disclosure of the invention. The added material which is not supported by the original disclosure is as follows: (pages 4-5, paragraph 15). Examiner has failed to find support in applicant's originally filed disclosure for subject matter indicating: "the address used in the network is a full digital code address reflecting the physical location in a network", "... the order from the top layer (operator) to the bottom layer (network entity) is as follows: operator, full digital code address and network entity", and "...there are no conventional IP addresses, domain names and network bynames and no domain name resolution, like

those in the conventional Internet work." Applicant is required to cancel the new matter in the reply to this Office Action.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112

4. After consideration of the amendments made to claims 1 and 12-14, Examiner has withdrawn the rejection of claims 1 and 12-14, under 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

Response to Arguments

5. Applicant's arguments filed August 5, 2005 have been fully considered but they are not persuasive. Applicant argued that:

- a) Low et al. cannot disclose or suggest the full digital code of the present invention which comprises "an online number, said online number comprising the digital number of an established network site, which number is specified by the country or area; a telephone number, said telephone number comprising the IDDD code of the country where a computer user is located, the area code of the domestic DDD of the user's area, and the telephone number of the user's company or home; and a category number, the category number comprising the digital number specified by the country or area for uniformly demarcating a business category" as recited in claim 1.

- b) Kelly's reliance on conventional domain names and subdomains, see Fig. 5, teaches away from the present invention, in which the FDCA is implemented below the IP layer between the IP layer and the network entity. As such, Kelly and Low in combination cannot disclose or suggest the full digital code of the present invention which comprises "an online number, said online number comprising the digital number of an established network site, which number is specified by the country or area; a telephone number, said telephone number comprising the IDDD code of the country where a computer user is located, the area code of the domestic DDD of the user's area, and the telephone number of the user's company or home; and a category number, the category number comprising the digital number specified by the country or area for uniformly demarcating a business category," as recited in claim 1.

Examiner respectfully disagrees with applicant's assertions.

6. Regarding item a), as expressed by examiner in previous actions, examiner maintains Low teaches a method for assigning addresses in full digital code, the method comprising using the FDCA, which comprises an online number, where Low discloses assigning a code to the URI of a WWW server, (col. 11, line 62-col. 12, line 3). In giving the claims their broadest reasonable interpretation, examiner has interpreted the FDCA claimed by Applicant to be the "code" taught by Low. Applicant acknowledges this in the remarks, however believes that the code is not the same as the FDCA because the

Art Unit: 2151

code is an indicator rather than a full digital address. Examiner submits that as claimed, applicants definition of a full digital address is "an online number, said online number comprising the digital number of an established network site, which number is specified by the country or area; a telephone number, said telephone number comprising the IDDD code of the country where a computer user is located, the area code of the domestic DDD of the user's area, and the telephone number of the user's company or home; and a category number, the category number comprising the digital number specified by the country or area for uniformly demarcating the business category".

Since Low teaches the code being an online number, said online number comprising the digital number of an established network site, (col. 10, lines 28-63, col. 11, line 62 through col. 12, line 3), and a telephone number of the user's company or home, and a category number, the category number comprising the digital number, (col. 7, lines 42-62, col. 10, lines 28-63), examiner submits the code taught by Low reads on applicant's claimed invention. Furthermore, as indicated in previous actions, examiner admits Low fails to expressly teach the number being specified by the country or area.

Nevertheless, the teachings of Kelly make up for such teachings not expressly disclosed in Low. More specifically, Kelly teaches a method for translating a domain name into a network protocol address comprising: a telephone number (the domain name) being specified by a country and an area, (col. 3, line 50-col. 4, line 31). It would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Low to show the digital number, the telephone number, and the category number being specified by the country or the area because this would have provided an effective and

efficient means for assigning addresses to online computers located anywhere in the world, (Kelly, col. 9, lines 12-34).

7. Regarding item b), examiner submits there is no support in applicant's originally filed disclosure supporting applicant's arguments that the FDCA is implemented below the IP layer between the IP layer and the network entity. Examiner requests applicant to show where such teachings may be found in applicants originally filed disclosure. Furthermore, even if such teachings were disclosed, they are not clearly indicated in applicant's claimed invention. Although the claims are interpreted in light of the specification, limitations from the specification are not read into the claims. See *In re Van Geuns*, 988 F.2d 1181, 26 USPQ2d 1057 (Fed. Cir. 1993). Thus, examiner maintains giving the claims their broadest reasonable interpretation, the combination of Low and Kelly disclose "an online number, said online number comprising the digital number of an established network site, which number is specified by the country or area; a telephone number, said telephone number comprising the IDDD code of the country where a computer user is located, the area code of the domestic DDD of the user's area, and the telephone number of the user's company or home; and a category number, the category number comprising the digital number specified by the country or area for uniformly demarcating a business category," for reasons previously indicated.

8. Accordingly the references supplied by the examiner in the previous office action covers the claimed limitations. The rejections are thus sustained. Applicant is requested to review the prior art of record for further consideration.

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 103

9. The following is a quotation of 35 U.S.C. 103(a) which forms the basis for all obviousness rejections set forth in this Office action:

(a) A patent may not be obtained though the invention is not identically disclosed or described as set forth in section 102 of this title, if the differences between the subject matter sought to be patented and the prior art are such that the subject matter as a whole would have been obvious at the time the invention was made to a person having ordinary skill in the art to which said subject matter pertains. Patentability shall not be negated by the manner in which the invention was made.

10. Claims 1, 6, 8-17, are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatentable over Low et al. (hereinafter Low), U.S. Patent 6,243,443, in view of Kelly, U.S. Patent 6,594,254.

11. In considering claim 1, Low teaches a method for assigning a unique full digital code address (FDCA) to an online computer, the method comprising assigning to said computer an FDCA which comprises: an online number, said online number comprising the digital number of an established network site, (col. 10, lines 28-63, col. 11, line 62 through col. 12, line 3); a telephone number of the user's company or home, and a category number, the category number comprising the digital number, (col. 7, lines 42-62, col. 10, lines 28-63).

Although the disclosed method of Low shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to expressly disclose: a number being specified by the country or area.

Nevertheless, in a similar field of endeavor, Kelly discloses a method for translating a domain name into a network protocol address comprising: a telephone number (the domain name) being specified by a country and an area, (col. 3, line 50-col. 4, line 31).

Thus, it would have been obvious to a person of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Low to show the digital number, the telephone number, and the category number being specified by the country or the area. This would have provided an effective and efficient means for assigning addresses to online computers located anywhere in the world, Kelly, col. 9, lines 12-34.

12. In considering claim 6, although the disclosed method of Low shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to expressly disclose: assigning dynamic addresses.

Nevertheless, assigning fixed and dynamic addresses was well known in the art at the time of the present invention. Kelly discloses: clients having fixed, and dynamic IP addresses, (col. 7, lines 39-46).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Low to assign dynamic addresses to temporary on-line computers. This would have provided an effective and efficient means assigning addresses to computers when there are more computers than the amount of fixed addresses available.

13. In considering claim 8, the teachings of Low provide a means for accessing an E-mail box by inputting the FDCA into a modem of a computer by dialing a telephone keyboard (col. 4, line 59-col. 5, line 4), linking to the FDCA, and converting the FDCA using dedicated software, (col. 10, lines 38-63).

14. In considering claim 9, Low teaches browsing the Internet by inputting the FDCA into a modem of the computer by dialing up a keyboard of a dial-up telephone (col. 4, line 59-col. 5, line 4), linking to the FDCA, and converting the FDCA using dedicated software, (col. 10, lines 38-63).

15. In considering claim 10, the teachings of Low provide a means for accessing an E-mail box by inputting the FDCA into a keyboard of the computer, linking to the FDCA, and converting the FDCA using dedicated software, (col. 10, lines 38-63).

16. In considering claim 11, Low teaches browsing the Internet by inputting the FDCA into a keyboard of the computer, linking to the FDCA, and converting the FDCA using dedicated software, (col. 10, lines 38-63).

17. In considering claim 12, Low teaches converting the FDCA using dedicated interpreting software into an IP address, whereby the FDCA corresponds appropriately to one existing IP address, (col. 10, lines 38-50).

18. In considering claim 13, Low teaches converting the FDCA using dedicated interpreting software into a domain name, whereby the FDCA corresponds appropriately to one existing domain name, (col. 10, lines 38-50).

19. In considering claim 14, the teachings of Low provide a means for converting the FDCA using dedicated interpreting software into a Chinese hierarchy system domain name, whereby the FDCA corresponds appropriately to one existing Chinese hierarchy system domain name, (col. 10, lines 38-50).

20. In considering claim 15, the teachings of Low provide a means for assigning a subcategory number following the category number, (col. 7, lines 42-62, col. 10, lines 38-63).

21. In considering claim 16, although the disclosed method of Low shows substantial features of the claimed invention, it fails to expressly disclose: encrypting numbers.

Nevertheless, encrypting numbers was well known in the art at the time of the present invention. Kelly discloses: digital numbers being encrypted depending on the secure nature of a network, (col. 16, lines 20-44).

Thus, it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art to modify the teachings of Low in order to encrypt a digital number following the online number. This

Art Unit: 2151

would have provided an effective and efficient means for securely validating the online number, Kelly, col. 16, lines 20-24.

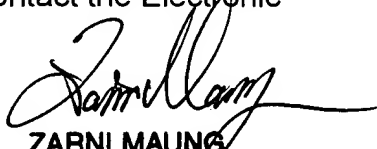
22. In considering claim 17, the teachings of Low provide a means for assigning an address to a mailbox, wherein the mail box address comprises a user name digital number and a domain name of a mail server where the mailbox is located, (col. 10, lines 38-63).

Conclusion

23. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Hassan Phillips whose telephone number is (571) 272-3940. The examiner can normally be reached on M-F 8:00am-5:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Zarni Maung can be reached on (571) 272-3939. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 571-273-8300.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).


ZARNI MAUNG
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER